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Message Text

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46
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-05 SAM-01 IO-13 CIAE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 USSS-00

AID-05 SCA-01 MCT-01 OMB-01 NEAE-00 /105 W
---------- 078234
R 121213Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 478
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 7774

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE
SUBJECT: NOV. 12 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT ADF WILL ENTER BEIRUT TODAY

1. MEDIA HIGHLIGHTED SUCCESSFUL DEPLOYMENT OF ADF. PRESS BANNERED: "DETERRENT FROCES COMPLETE THEIR CONTROL OVER ENTRANCES INTO BEIRUT AND BEGIN ESTABLISHING THEIR POSITIONS ALONG CON-FRONTATION LINES. ADF WILL ENTER BEIRUT TODAY. ELIMINATION OF ALL ROAD BLOCKS AND LAND MINES AND EFFORTS TO OPEN UP ALL INTER-NATIONAL HIGHWAYS BETWEEN CAPITAL AND LEBANESE TOWNS. LEBANESE MASSES RECEIVED DETERRENT FORCES WITH FLOWERS. FIRST STAGE HAS SUCCEEDED AND GENERAL SITATUION IS QUIET." PRESS ARTCILES NOTED THAT BULLDOZERS AND MINE SWEEPERS HAVE ELIMINATED MINES FROM
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MAIN AND SECONDARY ROADS AROUND CAPITAL. ADF ALSO MOVED INTO

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POSITIONS ALONG ROAD TO AIRPORT AND COASTAL ROAD LEADING TO JOUNIEH. AL SOURCES CLAIMED 5,000 TROOPS TOOK PART IN ADF OPERATION. LEBANESE SOURCE CITED BY PRESS ASSERTED THAT ADF WILL RECEIVE SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT WIHIN COMING 48 HOURS THAT WILL ENABLE FORCES TO PINPOINT ACCURATELY SOURCES OF HOSTILE FIRE.

2. MEDIA REPORTED PRES. SADAT'S ADDRESS TO EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENT PREVIOUS NIGHT IN WHICH SADAT PRAISED RIYADH AND CAIRO SUMMITS, EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT LEBANESE CRISIS NEARING ITS END, AND OBSERVED THAT SYRO-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS BACK TO NORMAL.

3. PRESS NOTED STATEMENT BY KING HUSSEIN TO AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION THAT JORDAN ENDORSED SYRIAN INITIATIVE IN LEBANON.

4. MEDIA REPORTED LECTURE BY FONMIN KHADDAM TO SYRIAN JOURNALIST SEMINAR STRESSING ATTAINMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL SYRIAN OBJECTIVE--ARAB SOLIDARITY--IN ARAB SUMMITS. KHADDAM EXPRESSED SYRIAN PLEASURE THAT OTHER ARABS HAD SOWN MUCH UNDERSTANDING OF SYRIA'S SACRIFICES IN LEBANON;.

5. EDITORIAL COMMENT PRAISED ADF DEPLOYMENT WITHOUT INCIDENT AS POSITIVE SIGN THAT SYRIA'S PERSISTENCE IN WORKING TO END CRISIS PAYING OFF AND BEING WELL RECEIVED BY LEBANESE MASSES. TISHRIIN REMARKED THAT "ENCOURAGING SIGNS OF RETURN OF SOLIDARITY, COOPERATION, ANNSCOORDINATION ARE BEGINNING TO APPEAR IN REGION."

6. COMMENT: MEDIA CONTINUE TO RELECT LOCAL RELIEF THAT ADF DEPLOYMENT SO FAR PROCEEDING WITHOUT SERIOUS INCIDENT.
MURPHY

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